



Kansas Department of Health and Environment

How do I Plug a Dug Well?

Fact Sheet



An abandoned water well is:

1. A well that has been permanently taken out of use.
2. A well that is in such a state of disrepair that using it for any purpose is impractical.
3. A well that is either a physical hazard or threatens to contaminate or pollute groundwater aquifers.

All abandoned water wells are required to be plugged in accordance with K.A.R. 28-30-7.

An abandoned water well needs to be permanently plugged by the landowner or a Kansas licensed water well contractor. **The plugging of dug water wells should be accomplished by using the following method:**

1. **Measure the water level in the well with a weighted tape measure or string.**
2. **Pour approximately two gallons of chlorine bleach into the well to properly disinfect it.**
3. **Knock down the top five feet of the well wall material and let it fall inside the well.**
4. **Fill the well with sand and gravel to the water level which was measured in Step 1 above. Use the weighted string or tape measure to determine when enough sand and gravel have been added.**
5. **Fill in the remaining open space with compacted natural clay or approved grout to a depth of 5 feet below ground surface.**
6. **Use approved cement or sodium bentonite and sodium bentonite grouting material to fill the well from 5 feet to 4½ feet below ground surface.**
7. **After a proper amount of time to allow for the curing of the grouting material, back fill the remaining part of the well with surface soils all the way to the surface.**

A record of the plugging of the well is required in accordance with K.A.R. 28-30-7. A plugging record (form WWC-5P) must be submitted to: KDHE-Bureau of Water-Geology Section, 1000 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 420, Topeka, Kansas 66612-1367, within thirty (30) days following the completion of the above plugging procedures.

If you have any additional questions pertaining to any of the specifics of the procedures, feel free to contact the department at 785.296.5522. Office hours are between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Plugging of a Dug Well

BEFORE

AFTER

**Ground
Level**

**Static
Water
Level**



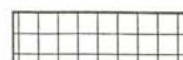
Clay



Grout



Sand & Gravel



Brick or Rock

Cost-Share Assistance

Contact your county office of the Kansas Conservation Commission, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Local Environmental Protection Programs County Sanitarians (LEPP) about possible financial assistance cost-share funds to assist in abandoned well plugging, and to install replacement wells.

Helpful Contacts & Websites

Kansas Conservation Commission

(785) 296-3600

<http://www.accesskansas.org/ksc/kcd.html>

Kansas Natural Resources Conservation Service

(785) 823-4500

<http://www.ks.nrcs.usda.gov/AboutNRCS.html>

Local Environmental Protection Programs County Sanitarians

<http://www.kdheks.gov/nps/lepp/lepp.html>

KDHE District Offices

Southwest

Allen Guernsey, DEA

302 McArtor Rd.

Dodge City, KS 67801

(620) 225-0596

Satellite Office

325 Oklahoma

Ulysses, KS 67880

(620) 356-1075

South Central

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130 S. Market, 6th Floor

Wichita, KS 67202

(316) 337-6020

Southeast

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1500 W. 7th St.

Chanute, KS 66720

(620) 431-2390

Northwest

Dan Wells, DEA

2301 E. 13th

Hays, KS 67601

(785) 625-5663

North Central

Rick Brunetti, DEA

2501 Market Place,

Suite D & E

Salina, KS 67401

(785) 827-9639

Northeast

Julie Coleman, DEA

800 W. 24th St.

Lawrence, KS 66046

(785) 842-4600

